AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-34. **(Canceled)**

35. **(Currently Amended)** A method for the real-time trading of options contracts, by a user [[trader]], over a network, comprising the steps of:

[[choosing]] selecting a trading strategy, by the user [[trader]], comprising a multi-leg contract;

based on the selected trading analyzing the trade strategy, selecting a corresponding multi-leg contract template to determine a plurality of legs of the multi-leg contract;

automatically populating at least a portion of one [[each]] leg of the multi-leg contract with information determined based on the selected trading strategy;

[[requesting]] receiving additional information from the user to further populate at least a portion of one [[each]] leg of the multi-leg contract template; and

completing the population of each leg of the multi-leg contract based on the additional information received supplied by the trader, wherein the completed multi-leg contract [[is]] comprises an order for a trade.

36. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 35, further comprising the steps of:

submitting the order to a server;

comparing the order to one or more other orders on the server; and

providing notification for [[notifying]] the user [[trader]] when the order matches one or more of the other orders.

37.   **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 35, further comprising the steps of:

prior to the [requesting] step of receiving additional information for populating a portion of one leg; hedging one or more legs of the multi-leg contract, wherein the one or more legs are hedged legs;

automatically populating at least a portion of one [[each]] hedged leg of the multi-leg contract with information determined based on the selected trading strategy;

[[requesting]] receiving additional information from the user to further populate at least a portion of one [[each]] hedged leg of the multi-leg contract; and

completing the population of each the hedged [[leg]] legs of the multi-leg contract based on the additional information received supplied by the trader.

38.   **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 35, further comprising the step of:

providing a visual representation of the selected trading strategy to the trader.

39.   **(Currently Amended)** The method according to claim 35, wherein the multi-leg trading strategy [[contract]] is selected from the group consisting of Butterflies, Strangles, Fences, Put Spreads, Calls Spreads, Ratio Call Spread, Ratio Put Spread, Ratio Fence, Calendar Spreads, Calendar Call Spreads, Calendar Put Spreads, Calendar Fences, Christmas Trees, Condors, Iron Butterflies, Straddles, Straddle Spreads, 3ways, and Fence Strips.

40., 41.   **(Canceled)**

42.   (**Currently Amended**) A method for the real-time trading of an option contract over a network, by a <u>user</u> [[trader]], comprising <u>the steps of</u>:

choosing, by the <u>user</u> [[trader]], a first leg of a multi-leg contract having a first value;

generating a second leg of the multi-leg <u>contract</u>, the second leg having a second value<u>,</u> wherein[[,]] the first leg <u>comprises</u> is one of an offer to buy the option contract and <u>an offer to</u> sell the option contract and the second leg <u>comprises the other of</u> is one of an the offer to buy the option contract and <u>the offer to</u> sell the option contract and the opposite of the first leg;

<u>receiving from the user</u> inputting, by the trader, a price for the multi-leg contract;

analyzing the price, comprising:

if the price is a positive number, setting the first value to be greater than the second value <u>if the price is a positive number,</u>[[;]] [and] if the price is a negative number, <u>alternatively</u> setting the second value to be greater than the first value <u>if the price is a negative number</u>;

displaying the price and the first and the second legs, comprising:

if the price is a positive number, displaying price and indicating that the first leg has the first value greater than the second value <u>if the price is a positive number,</u>[[;]] and

if the price is a negative number, <u>alternatively</u> displaying the price as a positive number and indicating that the second leg has the second value greater than the first value <u>if the price is a negative number</u>.

43.   (**Currently Amended**) The method of claim 35, further comprising the steps of:

formulating a request for a quote[[;]] ~~omitting~~ by removing specific information related to <u>at least one</u> [each] leg of the multi-leg contract ,[[;]] and further populating <u>at least one</u> [[each]] leg of the multi-leg contract based on the additional information <u>received from the user</u> ~~supplied by the trader wherein the specific information is omitted~~;

broadcasting, over the network ~~to a plurality of traders~~, the <u>formulated</u> request for a quote; and

~~broadcasting, from one or more of the plurality of traders, the specific information.~~

44. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 35, further comprising the steps of:

providing a first hedged contract comprising:

a first quantity of options to trade; and

a first delta, wherein the first delta is a percentage of the first quantity;

providing a second hedged contract comprising:

a second quantity of options to trade; and

a second delta wherein the second delta is a percentage of the second quantity; and

matching the first hedged contract with the second hedged contract when the first delta equals the second delta.

45. - 47. **(Canceled)**

48.   **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 35, further comprising the [[steps]] <u>step</u> of:

determining an implied multi-leg contract, comprising <u>the steps of</u>:

finding a first offset contract to offset a portion of the plurality of legs of the multi-leg contract;

finding a second offset contract to offset a remainder of the plurality of legs; and

combining the first offset contract and the second offset contract <u>to produce an implied multi-leg contract</u>; and

executing a trade using the multi-leg contract and the implied multi-leg contract.

49.   **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 48, wherein <u>the step of</u> determining the implied multi-leg contract further comprises <u>the steps of</u>:

~~if the second offset contract is not found,~~ generating an automatic second offset contract based on the multi-leg contract and the first offset contract <u>if the second offset contract is not found</u>; and

combining the first offset contract and the second automatic offset contract <u>to produce the implied multi-leg contract</u>.